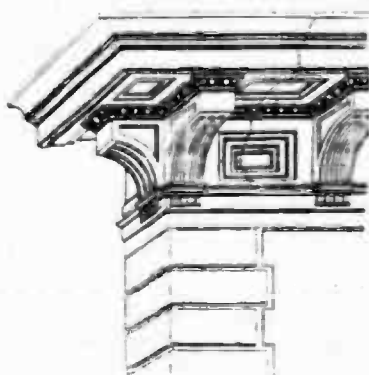
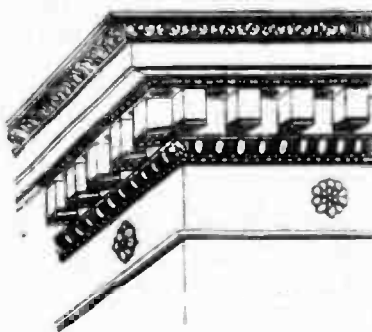


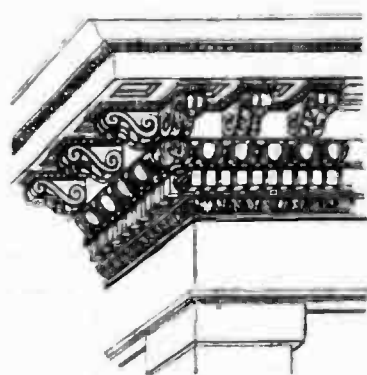
HINTS FOR STREET ARCHITECTURE.



CORNICE, OR CORNICIONE, OF THE COLONNA PALACE, AT ROME.



CORNICE OF A HOUSE IN ROME.



CORNICE OF THE PALAZZO BORGHESI, ROME.

rated wholesale price of the coal itself, namely, 17s., a sum of no less than 17.0s. sd. is added to the expense on every ton of coal, for wages or salaries, loss, repairs, and other incidental items of outlay; and that, too, altogether exclusive of interest on capital or expense of works and pipes no less than of cost of coal itself. In other words, it is alleged that for every ton of coals converted into gas, a City Company has to expend 17.0s. sd. for mere wages, loss, repairs, and other incidental charges. It is to this sum of 17.0s. sd. that we mean to restrict our present remarks. In the same pamphlet we are told, that in the metropolis "the quantity of gas made and distributed, or lost by leakage, in the year 1848, was 3,200,000 cubic feet,"—to produce which, it informs us, 350,000 tons of coal were used. Now, 350,000 tons of coal, at 17.0s. sd. a ton, amounts to about 361,000l.—a sum which we are to believe that the metropolitan gas companies pay every year for mere salaries, repairs, and other incidental charges! If such really be the case, we can only say that it affords one of the strongest arguments that can possibly be urged in favour of a thorough reform in the administration and supply of this public and poor man's invaluable property—gas-light.

As to the general progress of the gas movement, both in town and country, we had much more to say, but our limits impel us to reserve it till further opportunity; meantime we have only room to remark, that while the metropolitan companies, or their representatives or defenders, are renewing the delusive estimates of apparently moderate profit or percentage on their capital, estimates founded, as we have already showed, not on the capital actually laid out in necessary works, but on the whole of the enormous amounts authorised by their respective Acts of Parliament,* and while they are refusing, on many repeatedly disproved and delusive grounds, to reduce their present charges, we observe that one of them, the Phoenix, is at present offering to supply gas at Bedford for 3s. per 1,000 cubic feet, on a small and comparative expensive scale, and with coal there at 17s. 6d. a ton; and that the same company has already erected works at the Stratford station of the Eastern Counties, and contracted to supply the same article there, on a probably still smaller scale, for fourteen years, at a price beginning with 3s., to be afterwards reduced to 4s. and 3s. 6d., although unquestionably coal will there also cost considerably more than the same company can have it for in the metropolis, where the price of gas on an immensely larger scale cannot be reduced below 6s. without a "ruinous loss!"

* An interesting illustration, of course, to the important but every system of locomotion, which we have occasionally expressed, so as to show that it averaged at least 50 per cent. of the dividend itself. Mr. Bicham, of the Great Central Gas Company, Limited, recently speaks of one of the two city companies, "showing out shares have for years, before the recent panic, been quoted at 100l., and which pays 10l. per share, besides a frequent bonus, which, it was offered to be placed in a court of justice, renders the annual profit of the said shares equal to 150l." Were we inclined we could also say something more about bonuses from our own private knowledge, but that is unnecessary.

HINTS FOR STREET ARCHITECTURE.

CORNICE, OR CORNICIONE, OF THE COLONNA PALACE, AT ROME.

The exterior of this palace has little to attract attention, though the details are all very handsome. In the interior the noble picture gallery is perhaps unrivalled for the beauty and splendour of its proportions and decorations.

CORNICE OF A HOUSE IN ROME.

This design has been attributed to Raphael Sanzio, but it is not at all similar to his other works, which have all a marked character, and are easily to be distinguished.

CORNICE OF THE PALAZZO BORGHESI, ROME.

This enormous palace was commenced in 1590, by Cardinal Borghese, and was finished by Paul Vth about the year 1615. The first architect was Martino Longhi, and it was completed by Flaminio Ponzio.

BLINDS TO SHOPS WITHIN LIMITS OF BUILDINGS ACT.

WITH regard to a house in the Quadrant, Regent-street, in the district of St. James, Westminster, Mr. Pitt, a blind-maker, was about to fix on the top of the shop front a blind-box, framed of wood, which was to extend in a line with the shop front, and to the same extent at one end, and which shop front continued over the whole thickness of the party wall, or nearly. The district surveyor objecting, the parties required the official referees to determine the following questions, viz.:—

1st. Whether the said blind-box, which they consider only a tenant's shop fixture, would form a part of the shop front, it being intended to fix the same on the lead-flat over the said front, without altering the same, with iron brackets screwed thereto?

2nd. Whether such blind-box would be at all subject to the rules of schedule E. of the said Act first above mentioned?

And 3rd. Whether if the entablature of a shop front be merely altered for the reception of a blind-box within it, it would require such entablature to be wholly made in conformity with the said schedule, by keeping all woodwork the required distance from the centre of the party wall, or stopping it with a pier or corbel of incombustible material?

The referees awarded,—"1st. That the said blind-box, if fixed on the lead flat over the said shop front, will form a part of the said shop front. 2nd. That the said blind-box will be subject to the rules of schedule E. of the said Act first above mentioned. And 3rd. That if the wooden entablature of the said shop front be altered for the reception of a blind-box within it, such entablature must be wholly made in conformity with the rules of the said Act, and such blind-box, entablature, and every other part of such shop front, must not be fixed nearer than 4½ inches to the centre line of any party wall or party walls; and if it be fixed at such distance of 4½ inches, then a pier or corbel, built of stone or of brick or other incombustible material, and of the width of 4½ inches at the least, must be fixed in the line of the party wall, so as to be high as the woodwork, and so as to project one inch at the least in front of the face thereof."

THE BRITTON TESTIMONIAL AND CLUB.

MANY of our readers are interested in the testimonial to Mr. Britton, and will be glad to learn what progress has been made in it. The "Club" which grew out of it had their first dinner (given by Mr. N. Gould, F.S.A.) on Tuesday last, and on the health of Mr. Britton being drunk, one of his friends read a short reply that he had written, being not sufficiently well to speak. We give the following portion of it, as affording the information desired:—

"On the 22nd of August, 1846, nearly a hundred of my kind and partial friends invited me to a public dinner at Richmond, as a compliment for my archaeological and literary labours, promoting at the same time a general subscription, as a TESTIMONIAL of those exertions. Some of these friends knew that my gains in the literary market were never great, and that the profits on book-making, or authorship, are rarely commensurate with its toils and anxieties; for the phrase "a poor author" is proverbial. At the same time I must endeavour to disabuse your minds of a popular prejudice, by assuring you that any professional author, whether man or woman, possessing but a fair proportion of talent, industry, and prudence, may obtain a respectable income by a judicious exercise of the pen. The little I have acquired has arisen from other sources than writing and publication, and, although not rich, I am happy to acknowledge that I have saved enough to secure the comforts and some of the luxuries of life. Amongst the latter I include the cordial companionship and confidence of friends, whose talents, tastes, and characters render them valuable members of society at large, and examples to their families and associates. From an intercourse with such individuals I have derived much happiness; and as long as life may be granted to me I hope to deserve and enjoy their unreserved friendship and cordial sympathy. I have not yet mentioned the "unprecedented circumstance" belonging to this club, and the testimonial to which I have alluded. Sums of money, pieces of plate, and other honorary rewards have been often awarded to heroes, statesmen, and the officers of great public companies. In my own case the subscription already referred to commenced in the warm hearts of a few esteemed and estimable friends, who know the extent of my literary works, and the industry devoted to their production, together with the comparatively humble station in which I was contented to live. They enlisted their immediate friends in the cause, and the amount collected has far exceeded my most sanguine anticipations,—for there has been no public appeal, through the medium of the newspaper press. The total will be at least 8000l.,—the whole of which will be expended in the preparation of an illustrated volume, which I am writing and preparing for publication, and which I trust, according to the market price of such articles, will be at least of equal value to the amount subscribed by each individual. Hence there will be a reciprocity of obligation between the giver and the receiver. By this engagement I have entailed upon myself an amount of personal and mental labour, which I little anticipated when I pledged myself to the task. If, however, life and health be granted me for a few months more, I hope and expect to see a volume completed, which will neither reflect discredit on the head nor heart of the author, nor impeach the taste or generosity of those kind friends, on whose account, and for whose gratification, it has been written."